



# **Yeovil Rural District Council**

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## **ANNUAL REPORT**

OF THE

**MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

**31st DECEMBER, 1967**



Y E O V I L R U R A L D I S T R I C T C O U N C I L

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1967

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS

Medical Officer of Health	:	P. Power Fox, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Engineer and Surveyor	:	P. E. Mitchell, C.Eng., M.I.Mun.E., A.M.I.W.P.C.,
Senior Public Health Inspector	:	Brynmor Morris, M.A.P.H.I.
Additional Public Health Inspectors	:	J. T. Dallimore, M.A.P.H.I. W. G. Kelley, M.A.P.H.I., W. A. Barton, M.A.P.H.I.
Authorised Meat Inspector	:	D. H. DeGroot. (started in May, 1967)

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TO THE  
CHAIRMAN AND COUNCILLORS  
OF THE  
YEOVIL RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

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Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year 1967.

VITAL STATISTICS

Births

The total number of live births during the year was 512, as compared with 500 for the previous year. The Standardised Birth Rate was 17.3, as compared with 16.4 for the previous year. The Rate for England and Wales was 17.2.

Deaths

General Population

The total number of deaths was 267, 127 of this total occurring in people aged 75 years and over (47.5%). The Crude Rate per 1,000 population was 9.2, the corrected rate being 9.9. The Rate for England and Wales was 11.2. The Standardised Rate for the previous year was 10.8.

Infant Mortality

The number of deaths of infants under the age of 12 months was 4, the Infant Mortality Rate being 7.8, the rate for 1966 was 12. The Perinatal Mortality Rate was 17.5, the rate for England and Wales was 17.

Infectious Diseases

The number of cases of infectious diseases notified was 491, as compared with 388 for the previous year. The increase was mainly accounted for by the increase in the number of cases of Measles notified, 470 in 1967, as compared with 371 in 1966.

IMMUNIZATION

A feature of previous Annual Reports has been a table setting out the number of children and the percentage immunized against various infectious diseases. These figures were of value, since if the percentage fell below <sup>that</sup> of which would ensure "herd immunity", an outbreak of a particular infectious disease could occur, and therefore a fall below the level of "herd immunity" called for an intensification by all concerned to rectify what could be a dangerous state of affairs. Apart from this specific point, immunization was also an indication of the public's concern regarding health, and bore the same relationship as Tuberculosis and Infant Mortality statistics previous had, reference the health of the community. It is regretted that the County Medical Officer of Health has stated that these figures will no longer be available.



## SEPTIC TANKS

Free emptying service of septic tanks in the Rural area is a service provided by the Council. It is recognized that the disposal of sludge on pasture land has certain health hazards, both to cattle and to humans, and it is not always possible to deposit the sludge on arable land. In view of this, the Ministry of Housing and Local Government was approached, and after some considerable correspondence the Ministry accepted in principle the suggestions put forward by me. The amended recommendations agreed were

- (1) Septic tanks and cesspool contents should whenever practicable and necessary be disposed of via sewage works.
- (2) In designs for future sewerage disposal works allowance should be made, where practicable, to cope with septic tank contents.
- (3) That crude sewage should be disposed of on arable land, but the Department could not, especially in the present financial circumstances, encourage a deliberate policy of land purchase by local authorities.

The Council have accepted the advisability of adopting the above measures.

I again have pleasure in recording my appreciation of the help and co-operation received from the Council, from the Public Health Committee and from members of the Staff.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

P. P. Fox.

Medical Officer of Health.

## YEOVIL RURAL DISTRICT

### STATISTICS OF THE AREA FOR THE YEAR 1967

Area (in acres)	...	...	...	...	...	53,382
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	£778,491
Estimated Produce of 1d. rate (31.3.68)	...	...	...	...	...	£3,150
No. of inhabited houses	...	...	...	...	...	8,265
Population	...	...	...	...	...	28,990

### PHYSICAL FEATURES AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

The Yeovil Rural District comprising an area of 53,382 acres, is situated in the South-East area of the County of Somerset and is composed of 31 rural parishes.

The area in general is not very much above sea level: the greatest point of elevation being Ham Hill, 426 feet above sea level.

### WATER SUPPLY

The water supply during the year has been satisfactory, the impounding reservoir at Sutton Bingham have been completed in December, 1955. The capacity of the reservoir is 575 million gallons, with an estimated net yield of 2.4 million gallons per day.

### METEOROLOGY

The climate is mild and relaxing. There is little fog or mist.

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### RAINFALL

The rainfall for the year 1967, as recorded at Sutton Bingham Reservoir was 37.83 (37.65 in 1966).

### OCCUPATION

The main industry of the district is agriculture, which is chiefly of a dairying and grazing nature. In addition, the manufacture of gloves is an important industry, glove factories being located at Martock, Stoke-sub-Hamdon and Tintinhull, in addition to the glove making which is carried out in the homes. A considerable proportion of people resident in the Yeovil Rural District are employed in the Yeovil Borough.

### HOSPITAL SERVICES

The Hospital Services are mainly situated in the Yeovil Borough. The South Petherton Hospital, which deals with infectious diseases, is situated in the Rural District. The Hospital Services are administered by the South Somerset Hospitals Management Committee, under the general direction of the South Western Regional Hospital Board. Situated in the Yeovil Borough are

- (1) Yeovil & District Hospital - an acute general hospital.
- (2) Summerlands Hospital - mainly used as a geriatric hospital.
- (3) \*Yeovil Maternity Hospital - 14 beds.
- (4) \*Balidon Maternity Hospital - a G.P. unit - 17 beds.

\* Yeovil Maternity Hospital and Balidon closed when the new maternity unit at Yeovil General Hospital was opened in July, 1967. 44 beds.



The Yeovil General Hospital consists of 92 beds, of which 6 are private. The number of patients discharged throughout the year was 3,175 (2,941 in 1966). In addition, 6,598 new patients attended the Specialist and Out-patient Clinics, making a total number of attendances of 28,745.

In addition, there were 2,303 attendances at the Orthoptic Department, and 36,649 units of work were carried out in the Radiological Department. Casualty attendances = 10,095.

### INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Cases of infectious diseases requiring hospital treatment, are treated at South Petherton Hospital (50 beds). In general, only the Cubicle Block is required (10 beds), and the other 40 beds are utilized for post-operative cases, so relieving the strain on Yeovil Hospital and for General Practitioner patients and semi-chronic sick.

### TUBERCULOSIS

A chest clinic is held on Mondays and Wednesdays at Yeovil Hospital. Patients requiring in-patient treatment are admitted to the Cheddon Road Hospital, Taunton.

### CHRONIC SICK

Summerlands Hospital (100 beds), which is situated in the Borough is the largest hospital in the area used for this purpose. This hospital was originally a Poor Law Institute built in 1837, and the layout etc., does not conform with the accepted standards of today. Considerable improvements have already been carried out, and further improvements are being planned.

### LABORATORY SERVICE

A Laboratory is located at Yeovil Hospital, which deals with a large proportion of the pathological work connected with the hospital and the surrounding area. An emergency service is maintained, which deals primarily with the Yeovil Hospital blood bank. The larger Laboratory at Musgrove Park Hospital undertakes work beyond the scope of Yeovil Hospital. Also a Public Health Laboratory Service has a Laboratory in Taunton, at which bacteriological examination of swab, blood, sputum and faeces is carried out. Bacteriological and chemical analyses for the examination of milk, food, water supplies and sewage effluent are also carried out.

### AMBULANCE FACILITIES

The Ambulance Service is the responsibility of the Somerset County Council. The new ambulance station, which was opened in April, 1963 has ample garage accommodation for the ambulances, with underfloor heating, a heated blanket store adjacent to the vehicles, a well equipped workshop for maintenance and repairs of a minor nature, a sluice for bottles and bed pans and also a dressing destructor. The large airy control overlooks the station yard, and from here a constant supply of messages to and from the ambulances on the road is kept up, by the use of short wave radio.



## HOUSING

I am indebted to the Housing Manager for the following information:-

	<u>Private</u>	<u>Council</u>
Houses, etc. completed during the year ... ended 31.12.67.	109	61
Houses, etc., erected post-war ...	2,113	1,148
Houses, etc., sold post-war ...		24
Houses, etc., erected by the Local Authority and still owned by them		2,068
No. of applicants on the waiting list as at 31.12.67		498

## VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR

The statistics furnished by the Registrar General shows the number of births and deaths after correction has been made for transfers to the normal place of residence of the individuals concerned. From these figures can be calculated the "crude" birth and death rates. As, however, the highest mortality occurs at the two extremes of life, and industrial areas in general have a bigger proportion of people living in the middle age periods of life, some correction must be made for the irregularities of distribution as regards age and sex, as otherwise the death rate will afford no accurate means of comparing the healthiness of one district with another. This comparability factor is furnished by the Registrar General, and applied to the "crude" birth or death rate, gives a standardised rate and enables comparison to be made with the rate for England and Wales or with rates of other districts.

Live Births ...	512
Live Birth Rate ...	17.7
Stillbirths ...	6
Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births ...	11.5
Total Births ...	518
Infant Deaths ...	4
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births ...	8
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 legitimate births ...	8
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 illegitimate births ...	76
Neonatal Mortality Rate (first four weeks) per 1,000 ...	5.8
related live births	
Early Neonatal Mortality Rate (first week) per 1,000 ...	5.8
related live births	
Perinatal Mortality Rate (stillbirths + deaths during the first week) per 1,000 total live ...	17.3
and still births	
Percentage of illegitimate live births ...	2.5
Maternal Deaths (excluding abortion) ...	Nil.
Maternal Mortality (including abortion) ...	Nil.

BIRTHS

				<u>1967</u>	<u>1966</u>
				<u>Total</u>	<u>Total</u>
				<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
(a) <u>Live Births</u>					
Legitimate	...	262	237	499	479
Illegitimate	...	6	7	13	21
				<u>268</u>	<u>500</u>
Crude Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated population				17.7	17.3
Standardised Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated pop.				16.8	16.4
Birth Rate for England and Wales				17.2	17.7

(b) Stillbirths

Legitimate	...	3	3	6	3
Illegitimate	...	-	-	-	-
Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 live and still births				12	5.9
Stillbirth Rate for England and Wales				14.8	15.3

DEATHS

				<u>1967</u>	<u>1966</u>
				<u>Total</u>	<u>Total</u>
				<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Total Deaths	...	...	138	129	289
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 pop.				9.2	10.0
Standardised Death Rate per 1,000 pop.				9.9	10.8
Death Rate for England and Wales				11.2	11.7

MATERNAL MORTALITY

There were no maternal deaths during the year 1967.

BIRTH RATES

The table below shows the birth rate for the previous ten years.

1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967
17.06	16.4	18.6	17.09	17.9	17.8	17.3	17.6	18.1	16.4	16.8

## DEATHS

There was a decrease in the number of deaths, 267 in 1967, as compared with 289 for the previous year. The Standardised Death Rate was 9.9., as compared with 10.8 for the previous year. The Death Rate for England and Wales was 11.2.

The following table shows the age and sex incidence, and it will be noted that amongst the males, of the 138 deaths, 34 occurred in those between 65 and 75, and 62 amongst those 75 and over. Of the females, out of the total of 129, 27 occurred in those between 65 and 75, and 65 amongst those 75 years and over.

## AGES AT DEATH

Ages at death in years	Males	Females	Total
Under 1 year	3	1	4
1 - 5	1	2	3
5 - 15	1	1	2
15 - 25	2	-	2
25 - 35	2	1	3
35 - 45	4	2	6
45 - 55	9	8	17
55 - 65	20	22	42
65 - 75	34	27	61
75 and over	62	65	127
Total all causes	138	129	267

		<u>1967</u>	<u>1966</u>
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	67	57
Deaths from Heart Disease (all ages)	...	78	102
Deaths from Phthisis (all ages)	...	1	-

The Crude Death Rate for the past ten years is as follows:-

1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967
9.3	9.5	10.1	9.5	9.1	8.1	9.6	9.7	8.7	10.0	9.2



The following table shows the causes of death and the sex distribution.

Causes of Death	Male	Female
Tuberculosis, Respiratory ...	1	-
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach ...	2	7
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	6	2
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast ...	-	2
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	26	22
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia ...	2	1
Diabetes ...	1	1
Vascular lesions of the nervous system	13	28
Coronary Disease, Angina ...	36	22
Hypertension with heart disease ...	1	2
Other heart disease ...	9	8
Other circulatory disease ...	8	10
Pneumonia ...	8	8
Bronchitis ...	5	-
Other diseases of the respiratory system	3	-
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	-	1
Hyperplasia of Prostate ...	1	-
Congenital Malformations ...	1	-
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	9	8
Motor Vehicle Accidents ...	4	4
All other accidents ...	1	3
Suicide ...	1	-
Total ...	138	129

#### CANCER

The number of deaths due to Cancer (all forms) was 67. The table as set out below shows the incidence of Cancer for previous years.

1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967
39	46	62	52	45	42	40	43	46	57	67

#### CANCER DEATH RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION

	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967
Yeovil Rural District	1.6	1.8	2.4	2.02	1.7	1.5	1.4	1.5	1.6	1.9	2.3
County of Somerset	2.054	2.018	2.12	2.157	2.22	2.17	2.17	2.31	2.2	2.23	2.28
England & Wales	2.1	2.12	2.13	2.15	2.16	2.17	2.1	2.21	2.2	3.3	2.27



INFANTILE MORTALITY

The number of children dying within the first twelve months of life was 4, as compared with 6 for the previous year. The rate per 1,000 live births was 7.8., as compared with England and Wales, 18.3. The following table shows the number of deaths, and the Infantile Mortality Rate as compared with previous years.

	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967
No. of deaths	5	9	12	10	5	5	11	7	4	6	4
Rate per 1 000 live births in Rural Dist.	12.7	23.6	25.6	22.7	10.7	10.5	23.6	13.8	7.7	12.0	7.8
Rate per 1,000 live births in England & Wales	23.1	22.5	22.6	21.9	21.4	20.7	22.3	20.0	19.0	18.9	18.3

CAUSES OF DE TH AND AGE

	Under 4 weeks	4 weeks and under 1 year
Congenital Malformations	-	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	3	-
Total	3	1

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED

The folloving table sets out the details of infectious diseases notified during t e year. and also the figures for the previous year.

					Cases Notified	
					1967	1966
Measles	...	...	...	...	470	371
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	...	1	-
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	3	5
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	15	11
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	-	1
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	2	-
Total					491	388

## TUBERCULOSIS

The number of cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis notified during the year was nil, Non-pulmonary one. There was one death recorded as due to Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

	1967	1966	1965	1964	1963	1962	1961	1960	1959	1958	1957
No. of cases notified Pulmonary	-	-	2	4	5	6	4	7	7	12	5
No. of cases notified Non-pulmonary	1	-	-	-	1	3	2	1	2	4	2
No. of deaths Pulmonary	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	2	-	1
No. of deaths Non-pulmonary	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Death Rate of respiratory T.B. per 1,000 population	0.3	-	-	-	.03	.03	-	.03	.08	-	.04

## MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE

### INFANT WELFARE CLINICS

The establishment and maintenance of the Infant Welfare Clinics are a direct responsibility of the Somerset County Council, and during recent years the number of such clinics in the Yeovil Rural District has risen to 7. At each clinic, other than the Houndstone Camp Clinic, a doctor engaged by the Somerset County Council attends regularly, also a District Nurse. Facilities are available for the purpose of Infant Welfare Foods, including National Dried Milk, Orange Juice, etc., and certain proprietary dried milk preparations, which are sold at the clinics at special prices. Apart from other considerations, the clinics have an important educational value. Associated with each clinic is a voluntary Committee, the value of whose services it would be difficult to over-emphasize. /

The following table sets out the attendances, etc. at the various clinics.



	MARTOCK	STOKE-SUB HAMDON	SOUTH PETT R- TON	WEST COKER	HOUND-- STONE	WRAXHILL ROAD	ILCH- ESTER	TOTAL
No. of children who attended for the first time under 1 yr. of age	48	22	49	21	15	14	83	252
No. of children who attended during the year	159	86	172	94	43	40	188	782
Total attendances of children during the year	778	545	759	379	119	101	896	3,577
Average attend- ance of children per session	35	23	31	33	10	20	37	189
Total No. of con- sultations with Medical Officer	244	83	189	117	-	52	111	189
No. of medical sessions with Medical Officer	21	12	24	12	-	5	24	98
Total No. of sessions	22	24	24	12	12	5	24	123

#### BIRTHS

Live Births ...	Legitimate 499	Illegitimate 13	Total 512
Stillbirths ..	" 6	" -	" 6
Infant Deaths ..	" 3	" 1	" 4

#### BLOOD EXAMINATION CLINIC

This Clinic was commenced in 1947. It was held at The Preston Road Clinic, Yeovil. Since its inception, 10,623 individual pregnant women had been examined, 456 examinations being carried out in 1967, from January to August. This clinic was transferred to the new maternity unit at Yeovil Hospital, when it opened in July, 1967.

### HOME HELP SERVICE

This service continues to render excellent assistance and the following table shows the scope of its activities.

#### No. of cases who received help in 1967

<u>Type of Case</u>			<u>1967</u>	<u>1966</u>
Maternity	...	...	29	24
Old Age and Infirmary		...	111	118
Chronic Illness	...	...	4	6
Mental Health	...	...	-	-
Child Care	...	...	2	1
Post-operation	...	...	5	1
Tuberculosis	...	...	1	1
Accidents	...	...	3	-
General Illness	...	...	2	2
			<u>157</u>	<u>153</u>

### NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT

No action was taken under Section 47 of the above Act.



## ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

To the Chairman and Members of the Yeovil Rural District Council

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the annual report of the work of the Public Health Inspector's Department for 1967.

### 1. STAFF

The complement of four Public Health Inspectors was augmented in May 1967 by the appointment of an Authorised Meat Inspector, Mr. D. H. De Groot, who is engaged full-time on meat inspection.

### 2. AGRICULTURE (SAFETY, HEALTH AND WELFARE PROVISIONS) ACT, 1956

No requests for action under this Act were received during the year and no enforcement action was necessary.

Of the estimated 390 agricultural units within the district only 10 have been inspected since the Act became operative.

### 3. ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT, 1963

Three licences were issued under the above Act covering establishments boarding a total of 24 dogs and 40 cats. Inspection of boarding kennels were made regularly in conjunction with an Inspector of the R.S.P.C.A.

### 4. CARAVAN SITES AND CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT ACT, 1960

	<u>Permanent</u>	<u>Seasonal</u>
(a) Number of single caravans licensed .. .. .	32	-
(b) Number of site licences issued . in respect of more than one caravan .. .. .	16	1
(c) Number of caravans occupied during the year .. .. .	200	-
(d) Estimated maximum number of occupants resident during the year .. .. .	464	-
(e) Number of sites closed .. .. .	NIL	
(f) Camping Sites - Number of unlicensed sites in use .. .. .	NIL	

The standard of sites generally is very good and it was only necessary to serve informal notices in seven instances.

The demand for seasonal and transit sites in the area is very limited and although there are 2 sites (10 caravans) approved by the Caravan Organisations authorising the use of caravan standings, they are not extensively used.

5. CLEAN AIR ACT, 1965

Only one complaint was received during 1967, and it is anticipated that work will be carried out during the forthcoming year which will obviate its recurrence.

6. PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936 --  
CLOSET CONVERSIONS

It is estimated that there are a total of 632 properties still using either chemical/pail closets, etc. During the year 13 pail closets were replaced by W.C.'s with satisfactory drainage systems.

7. DISEASES OF ANIMALS ACT, 1950  
DISEASES OF ANIMALS (WASTE FOOD ORDER) 1957

There were five boiling plants licensed during the year, all of which were operating on a small scale. However, due to the Foot and Mouth Disease outbreak they were kept under particularly close supervision.

8. FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS 1960 and FOOD AND DRUGS  
ACT 1955

(a) Inspection of premises

The general standard of premises throughout the district was found to be satisfactory.

Particular attention was paid during the year to the handling of cooked meat products and advice was given where necessary. Codes of practice on the handling and storage of these commodities were distributed to all premises concerned.

(b) Mobile food vehicles

Specific legislation controlling the general standard of hygiene, and in particular facilities for procuring personal hygiene came into force on 1st January this year.

In this type of area where considerable mobile food retailing is carried out, this legislation has been a welcome step forward.

Forty-two vehicles were inspected during the year, and no difficulties were encountered in enforcing the Regulations.

(c) Food Complaints

Ten complaints were received during the year compared with eight in 1966 and four in 1965. Five of the complaints related to food purchased within the District.

Thorough and impartial investigations were made into each complaint, but it was not considered necessary to take legal action in any instance.

Baking products, meat products and milk bottles accounted in each case for three complaints and the other complaint related to mineral water.

(d) Ice Cream

Routine samples were taken from a local manufacturers premises and submitted to the Public Health laboratory for examination.

One sample failed to show satisfactory bacteriological grading, and following this the fifty gallon mixture from which it was taken was repasteurised.

The other seventeen samples taken were found to fall within the recommended grading percentages.

(e) Food Hygiene Education

In conjunction with other Local Authorities in the area and the Yeovil Technical College, a course in Food Hygiene has been arranged for early next year, to be held over a period of twelve weeks at the Yeovil Technical College.

The ultimate aim of the persons taking the course will be a certificate of the Royal Society of Health in Food Hygiene.

Initial canvassing amongst food handlers in this area has been encouraging.

(f) Types of Food Premises

The following schedule indicates the number and type of food premises in the District.

Catering .....	21
General food .....	65
Bakers/Confectioners .....	14
Butchers/Fish mongers .....	17
Licensed Premises .....	52
Total	<u>169</u>

All the above premises are fitted to comply with Regulations 16 and 19 of the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960.

(g) Premises Registered Under Section 16, Food and Drugs Act, 1955

Ice Cream .....	114
Preserved Food .....	19
Slaughterhouses .....	4



(9) HOUSING

(i) HOUSING ACT, 1957 - GENERAL

There was limited progress during the year, the emphasis again being placed upon the improvement and renovation of properties rather than demolition.

Summary of action taken:

1. No. of inspections made:	
2. No. of houses demolished or closed under Section 16 and 17 (individually unfit):	12.
3. No. of temporary dwellings (huts, etc.) demolished:	1.
4. No. of houses declared unfit but capable of repair (Section 9):	NIL.
5. No. of houses made fit during the year:	
(a) After informal action	34.
(b) After formal action	1.

(ii) HOUSING ACT, 1957 - OVERCROWDING

(a) i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year (estimated)	NIL.
ii) Number of families dwelling therein (estimated)	NIL.
iii) Number of people dwelling therein (estimated)	NIL.
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	NIL.
(c) i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	NIL.
ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases	NIL.
(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding.	NIL.

Note: Although there is no Overcrowding on the basis of the assessment required by the Housing Act, 1957 I have to report that there are 42 houses which are overcrowded to some degree if only bedroom accommodation is taken into consideration.



(iii) NEW HOUSES

- |  |      |
|--|------|
| (a) Local Authority dwellings constructed during year:                     | 61.  |
| (b) Private dwellings constructed and gained from conversions during year: | 116. |

(iv) IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

There has been a general increase in the number of applications and also in the number of completions during the year. It may be of interest to note that whereas the average Discretionary Grant approved has risen to £391, the overall average cost of the improvement work is over £1300. This I think reflects the fact that applicants are prepared to spend an increasing amount of their own money on improvements.

(See detailed schedule on following page)

## Discretionary Grants

	<u>1967</u>	<u>1966</u>
(i) <u>Applications:</u>		
No. of applications received:		
(a) conversions .. .. .	7	
(b) gen. improvements .. ..	24	
Total	31	15
No. of applications approved:		
(a) owner occupied houses .	16	7
(b) tenanted houses . . . .	15	8
Total cost of improvement work . . . . .	£41,364	-
Total amount of grant approved . . . . .	£12,139	£5,622
An average grant per house was approximately .. .. .	£391	£375
(ii) <u>Payments:</u>		
No. of grants paid . . . . .	15	14
Amount paid in grants . . . . .	£5,345	£10,964
Average grant paid per house .. .. .	£356	£391

## Standard Grants

	<u>1967</u>	<u>1966</u>
(i) <u>Applications:</u>		
No. of applications received: .. .. .	22	18
No. of applications approved:		
(a) Owner occupied houses .	20	10
(b) tenanted houses . . . .	2	8
No. of applications where the Council agreed to give grants in excess of the normal £155:		
(a) bathroom additions . . .	2	7
(b) Septic tank .. .. .	3	6
(ii) <u>Payments:</u>		
Grants paid on completion of improvements:		
No. of dwellings concerned .. .. .	25	12
Total amount of grant paid .. .. .	£451	£1899
Average per house .. .. .	£180	£158
		Approx.
Amenities provided with Standard grant assistance:-		
Bathroom additions .. .. .	9	-
Fixed bath or shower .. .. .	25	10
Wash-hand basin .. .. .	25	10
Hot water supply to (a) three fittings .. .. .	25	11
(b) one or two fittings . . .	2	
W.C. within the dwelling .. .. .	12	12
Septic tank installations . . . . .	6	-
Food store . . . . .	24	10

(10) <u>INSPECTIONS - GENERAL</u>	
Animal Boarding Establishments	3
Civic Amenities Act and Litter Act	22
Clean Air	40
Diseases of Animals Acts	7
Disinfestations and disinfections	152
Drainage	102
Factories	5
Food Hygiene C/S	15
Food Premises:	
(a) Bakers and bakeries	6
(b) Shops	109
(c) Cafes and Restaurants	56
(d) Fish and chip/Wet fish shop	6
(e) Licensed premises and Off Licences	6
(f) Sweet confectionery	6
(g) Markets, Stalls and Delivery Vehicles	42
Housing	213
Ice Cream sampling and registration	43
Improvement Grants	549
Infectious Disease	6
Inspection of food	43
Interviews	10
Meat Inspection	378
Milk and Dairies Regulations	7
Miscellaneous	40
Moveable dwellings	93
Noise Abatement Act	35
Nuisances	205
Offices and Shops Act	82
Petroleum Acts	117
Poultry Act 1967	2
Refuse Collection and Disposal	134
Rodent Control	50
Slaughterhouses	16
Water Supplies	52



(11) MEAT INSPECTION AND SLAUGHTER-HOUSES

(i) Slaughtering took place at three private slaughterhouses during the year, again only a very small minority of the animals were killed at the slaughterhouses of Messrs. J. Yandle and Sons, Bower Hinton and Mr. W. Raymond, Over Stratton.

(ii) The total number of animals killed during 1966 and 1967 is given below.

	<u>1967</u>	<u>1966</u>
Cattle (excluding cows)	3,153	2,062
Cows	27,776	18,704
Calves	1,852	1,790
Sheep and Lambs	17,412	26,951
Pigs	311	3,175
Total	<u>50,504</u>	<u>52,682</u>

(iii) Whereas these figures appear to show a drop in through-put this is not a true impression, as the balance between the different classes of animal has varied and if a comparison is made on the basis of the time taken to inspect each category of animal the 1966 through-put represents 276,457 inspection units and the 1967 figure 350,603 units. In addition, due to slaughtering being concentrated over fewer hours the through-put per hour has increased from an average of 96.9 in 1966 to 133 in 1967. It is worth noting also that during the first year of full-time meat inspection, i.e. 1963-64 the rate per hour was 73.00 units.

(iv) As the result of the appointment of an Authorised Meat Inspector in May most of the working day is now covered by two inspectors. However, during early morning and late evening periods, one inspector only is on duty and, unfortunately, he is more than fully extended at these times.

(v) The pattern and incidence of disease related to through-put is fairly constant, and the increase in Echinococcosis, mentioned last year, remains relative to the number of cattle drawn from markets north of the Severn.

(vi) Use of the new boning room and blast freezer has meant that much more meat is now "prepared" for sale on the premises and is sent out "boxed" rather than "on the hook".

(vii) The additional lairage accommodation and refrigerated space are now in use and it is hoped that the Casualty and Pig Slaughterhouse will come into full operation in 1968.



Details of the specific diseases and conditions found in the animals were as follows:-

	<u>Pigs</u>	<u>Sheep</u>	<u>Adult Cattle</u>	<u>Calves</u>
Abnormal odour associated with disease	1	1	1	
Acetonaemia			1	
Actinobacillosis			2	
Anaemia (Advanced)				
Arthritis - Gangrenous		2	5	
Badly bled and Oedemations				1
C. Bovis - Generalised			1	
Cystercosis			1	1
Dead on Arrival		2	5	
Decomposition				1
Emaciation, Pathological	18	29	14	1
Fevered	4	1	2	2
Gangrene			5	
Immaturity				4
Insufficient bleeding				
Jaundice				
Lymphadenoma				
Lymphosarcoma			5	
Mastitis (Acute septic)			1	
Metritis (Acute septic)			4	1
Moribund	2		3	2
Muscular Degeneration	1			
Nephritis - Gangrenous			1	
Oedema (Generalised)	11	40	63	14
Parasitisation (Echinococcosis) - Generalised			1	
Pericarditis (Acute septic)	1		5	
Pleurisy (Acute diffuse septic)				
Polyarthrititis	1		1	
Pneumonia - septic		4		
- gangrenous		1		
Pyæmia - umbilical				1
Other	9	9	37	11
Pyelonephritis	1	2	10	
Septicaemia	7	8	31	3
Swine Erysipelas (Acute)	2			
Toxaemia		3	14	
Tuberculosis			2	
Tumours		1	21	
Uræmia			5	
Xanthosis			1	

Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part during the year:-

	Cattle excluding cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed (if known)	3,153	27776	1852	17412	311	-
Number inspected	3,153	27776	1852	17412	311	-
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	8	210	56	140	41	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	797	17395	5	1464	34	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with diseases other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	25.2	63.3	3.3	9.3	24.1	
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	NIL	3	NIL	NIL	NIL	
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	NIL	1	NIL	NIL	1	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	NIL	Less than 1%	NIL	NIL	Less than 1%	-
<u>Cysticercosis</u>						
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	13	115	-	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	3	15	NIL	NIL	NIL	-
Generalised and totally condemned		2				
<u>Weight of meat condemned (in lbs.) for:-</u>						
(a) Tuberculosis	NIL	1268	NIL	NIL	12	
(b) Cysticercosis	170	4070	NIL	NIL	NIL	
(c) Other	13155	336433	4023	9839	3102	
Total (in lbs.) condemned	13325	341771	4023	9839	3114	

(12) NOTICES SERVED DURING THE YEAR:

Statute	Informal	Formal
(a) Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960:		
(i) Site defects	1	
(ii) Unauthorised siting	6	
(b) Civic Amenities Act, 1967:		
(i) Abandoned rubbish	1	
(c) Clean Air Act, 1956:		
(i) Smoke nuisance	1	
(ii) Chimney heights	1	
(d) Factories Act, 1961:		
(i) Sanitary conveniences	1	
(e) Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960:	9	
(f) Food Hygiene (Markets, Stalls and Delivery Vehicles) Regulations, 1966:	2	
(g) Housing Act, 1957:		
(i) Houses repairable at reasonable cost	4	
(h) Litter Act, 1958:	3	
(i) Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1959:		
(i) Milk suspected of causing disease (Undulant Fever)	1	
(j) Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963:	5	
(k) Public Health Act, 1936:		
(i) Section 39 - Unsatisfactory drainage, etc.	9	



	Informal	Formal
(ii) Section 50 -- Overflowing cesspools	7	
(iii) Section 58 - Dilapidated buildings	4	
(iv) Section 60 - Means of escape in case of fire	4	
(v) Section 93 - Nuisances - disrepair of houses	15	1
(1) Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949:	1	
(m) Petroleum (Consolidation) Act, 1928:	14	
(n) Slaughterhouses Act, 1958:	1	
(o) Water Act, 1945:	2	

(15) OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

Contraventions of this Act were of a minor nature and there were no accident reports during the year.

The following table gives a summary of inspections and registrations during the year.

Registered Premises	Offices	Shops	Catering Establish - ments	Fuel Depots	Ware- houses	Totals
Number Registered in 1967	2	1	NIL	NIL	NIL	3
Total number Registered 31.12.67	17	54	11	2	5	89
General Inspections during 1967	5	53	11	1	2	72

(14) PETROLEUM ACTS

A total of 89 premises were licensed for the storage of approximately 172,000 gallons of petroleum spirit during the year.

The duties of the department in this sphere have been principally associated with routine inspections, etc., and I am pleased to report that generally a satisfactory standard of safety exists at all the installations. However, there have been two recent technical developments which, although not adopted extensively as yet, are giving some cause for concern. These are the adoption of 'Spring Controlled' nozzles on power operated pumps and the establishment of 'Unmanned Self-service' stations. Whereas both of these innovations may eventually be acceptable, it is felt that the safeguards available are not entirely adequate and therefore while an element of public risk remains both matters will need to be approached with considerable caution.

(15) REFUSE COLLECTION

- (a) A weekly collection from the kerbside was provided to all except approximately 75 domestic premises during the year. The houses not receiving a weekly collection were mostly well away from main routes and were collected fortnightly. There was very little restriction on the type or quantity of refuse which could be put out for collection and during the period there were 15 requests for collection of bulky articles for which a charge was made. A space near the entrance to the Tip at Odcombe was allocated so that anyone could deposit unwanted household articles during the hours when the Tip was closed.

There is a continuing demand for the Council to introduce a collection from the rear of domestic premises. In this connection, the use of paper sacks is to my knowledge more and more widespread and as a step in this direction it was hoped that a trial scheme would be introduced in parts of two Parishes, but unfortunately, due to financial restrictions, the Council found it necessary to defer the scheme for the present.

During the year all the refuse freighters were provided with hand-washing facilities with a supply of hot and cold water.

- (b) Refuse received at Odcombe Tip:

(i)	House refuse and trade refuse collected by the Council	5,388 tons.
(ii)	Trade, commercial and industrial refuse delivered by traders	351 tons.
(iii)	Excavation of demolition waste from construction industry	500 tons.
(iv)	Brought to the site by vehicles owned by Royal Naval Air Station, Yeovilton	650 tons.
Total		<u>6,889 tons.</u>

(c) Salvage:

	<u>Tons.</u>	<u>cwts.</u>	<u>qrs.</u>			
Waste paper	7	19	0	£54.	19.	0.
Scrap Iron	3	0	0	18.	0.	0.
Miscellaneous	3	14	1	45.	4.	9.
			Total	£118.	3.	9.

(d) Litter and Lay-bys:

A collection is made twice weekly in Summer and once weekly in Winter from all lay-bys on the A 303, A 30 and A 37. Despite traffic difficulties during peak periods this service has been carried out efficiently by one man on a part-time basis. It is an unpleasant and even dangerous job at times as the general public do not hesitate to put objectionable and occasionally lethal articles into litter baskets.

(16) RODENT AND INFESTATION CONTROL  
PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

The Council employ one man for about 50% of his time on these duties.

The number of complaints of rats and mice has decreased during the year but the overall number of infestations found remains constant. A considerable number of wasp-nests and fly-nuisances were dealt with.

In recent years 'cluster-flies' have been particularly troublesome. Although these flies are not a danger to health in the accepted sense, they cause considerable annoyance by staining paintwork and paper. Also, as they appear in large numbers their buzzing is disturbing.

<u>TYPE OF PROPERTY</u>		
	<u>NON- AGRICULTURAL</u>	<u>AGRICULTURAL</u>
1. Number of properties in district	9481	390
2. a) Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification	308	2
b) Number infested by (i) Rats	257	2
(ii) Mice	33	-
3. a) Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification	147	-



TYPE OF PROPERTY

	NON- AGRICULTURAL		AGRICULTURAL
3. b) Number infested by (i) Rats	147		-
(ii) Mice	-		-

(17) SLAUGHTER OF POULTRY ACT, 1967 AND POULTRY INSPECTION

(i) Number of poultry processing premises within the district		2
(ii) Number of visits made to these premises		2
(iii) Types of poultry processed:		
(a) hens	2,000	
(b) broilers	6,000	
Total	8,000	
(iv) Percentage of birds rejected as unfit for human consumption		NIL

It was found that one processing plant was sub-standard and it is expected to be re-built during the coming year.

(18) WATER SUPPLIES

It is estimated that there are 123 properties using private water supplies for domestic purposes. Of these 58 are well-supplies and 45 spring-supplies.

Bacteriological Sample results:

1. Piped supplies:

(a)

Raw Water		Treated	
Satis.	Unsatis.	Satis.	Unsatis.
2	8	32	-

2. Water from wells and springs:

Satisfactory: 18

Unsatisfactory: 4

I wish to express my thanks to the Members of the Council and to all the Additional Public Health Inspectors for their continued support during the year.

I have the honour to be

Your obedient servant,

*B. Morris*

B. MORRIS

Sen. or Public Health Inspector.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
IN RESPECT OF THE YEAR 1967 FOR THE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL  
OF YEOVIL IN THE COUNTY OF SOMERSET

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration  
of the Factories Act, 1961

1 - INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health  
(including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspection	Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	NIL	NIL	NIL
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	90	5	1	NIL
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Total	91	5	1	NIL

2 - Cases in which DEFECTS were found

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)					
Overcrowding (S.2)					
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)				NIL	
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)					

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Insp.	By H.M. Insp.	
Ineffective drainage of floor (S.6)	NIL	NIL			
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	NIL	NIL			
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	2		1	
(c) Not separate for sexes	NIL	NIL			
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)			NIL		
Total	2	2	NIL	1	NIL

PART VIII OF THE ACT    Outwork

Nature of Work	Section 133			Section 134		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 133 (1) (c) (2)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
Glove Making.	580	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL







